

Colorado River Board of California



Board Meeting
November 14, 2018



Public Comment



Administration

- Consideration & Approval of Meeting Minutes, October 10, 2018 (ACTION)
- Consideration & adoption of proposed Calendar-Year 2019 Board meeting schedule (ACTION)



Colorado River Basin Water Report



November 14, 2018

Reservoir Storage

<u>Reservoir</u>	<u>MAF</u>	<u>Elev.</u> <u>In Feet</u>	<u>% of</u> <u>Capacity</u>
Lake Powell	10.85	3,590.27	45
Lake Mead	9.88	1,078.35	38
Total Sys. Storage	27.67 MAF		47
Sys. Storage Last Yr.	32.57 MAF		55

(As of November 5, 2018)

Precipitation

- Observed WY-2018 Lake Powell inflow = 4.61 MAF (43% of normal)
- Observed April – July 2018 = 2.60 MAF (36% of normal)
- October Observed Inflow= 0.35 MAF (69% of normal)
- November Inflow Forecast = 0.32 MAF (68% of normal)
- WY-2019 Precipitation to date= 144%

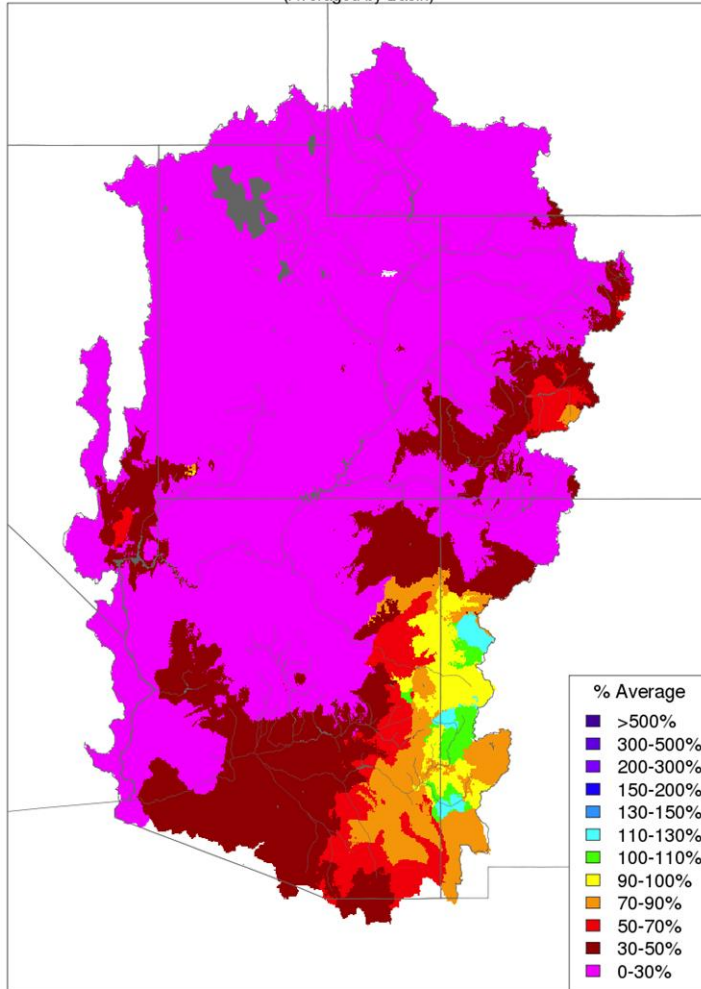
(As of November 5, 2018)



Colorado River Board
of California

Monthly Precipitation - September 2018

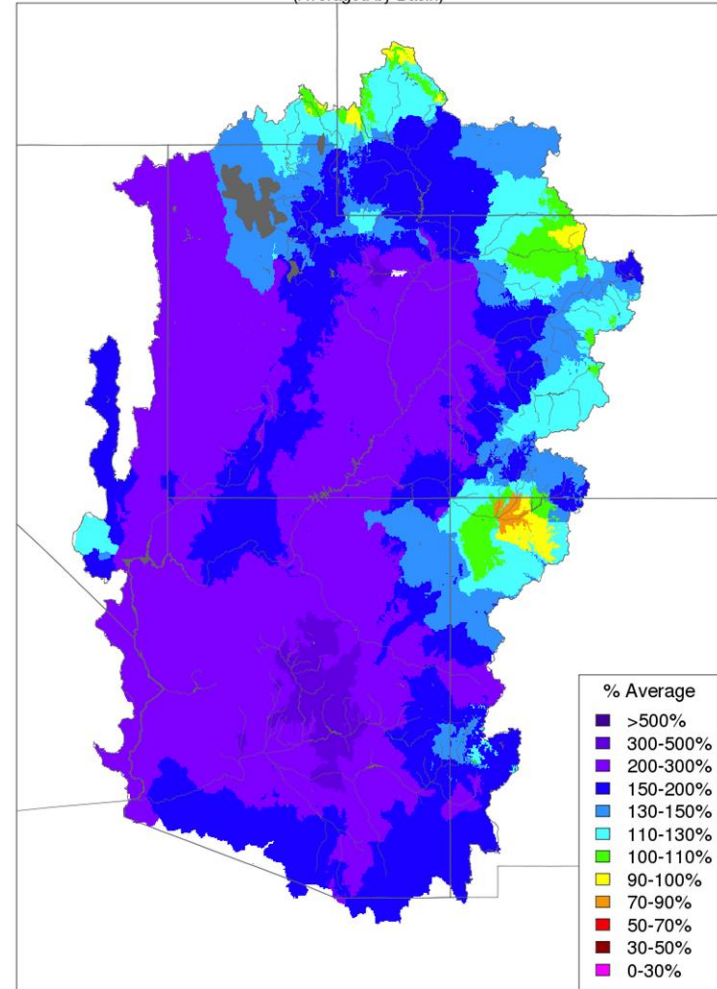
(Averaged by Basin)



Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah, www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

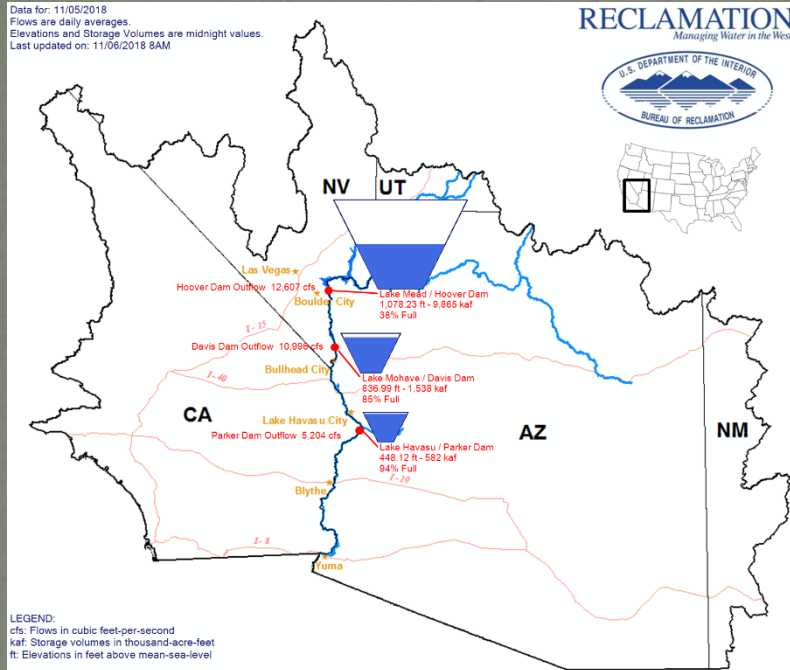
Monthly Precipitation - October 2018

(Averaged by Basin)



Prepared by NOAA, Colorado Basin River Forecast Center
Salt Lake City, Utah, www.cbrfc.noaa.gov

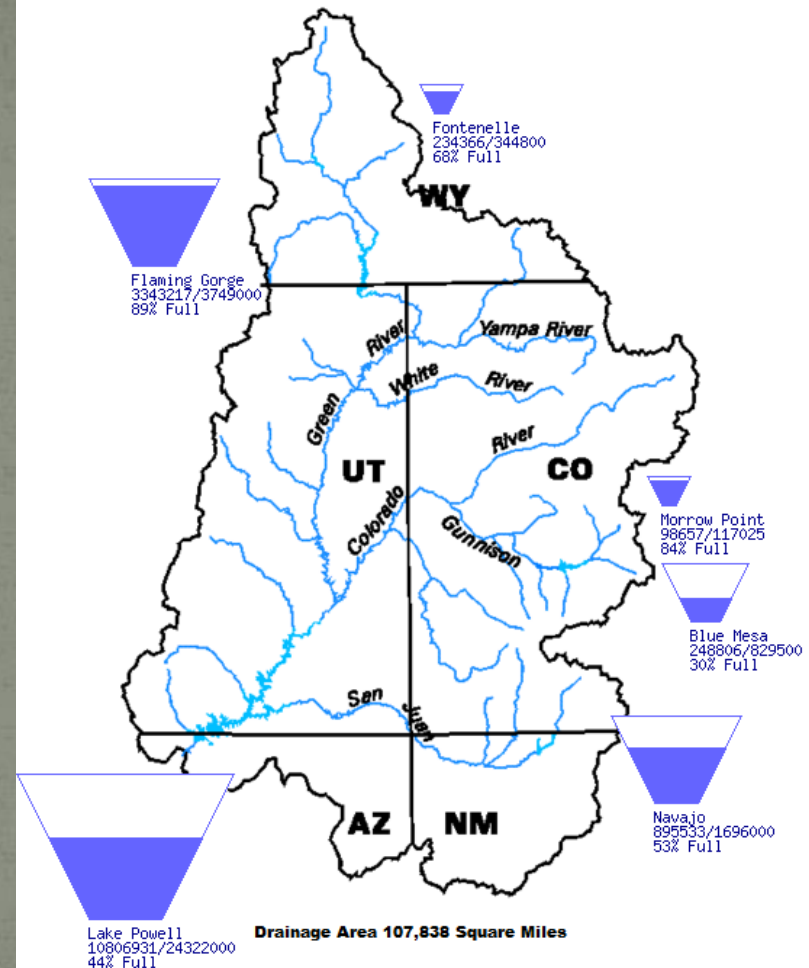
Data for: 11/05/2018
 Flows are daily averages.
 Elevations and Storage Volumes are midnight values.
 Last updated on: 11/06/2018 8AM



(As of November 5, 2018)

Data Current as of:
 11/05/2018

Upper Colorado River Drainage Basin



Regulatory Storage and Excess Flows

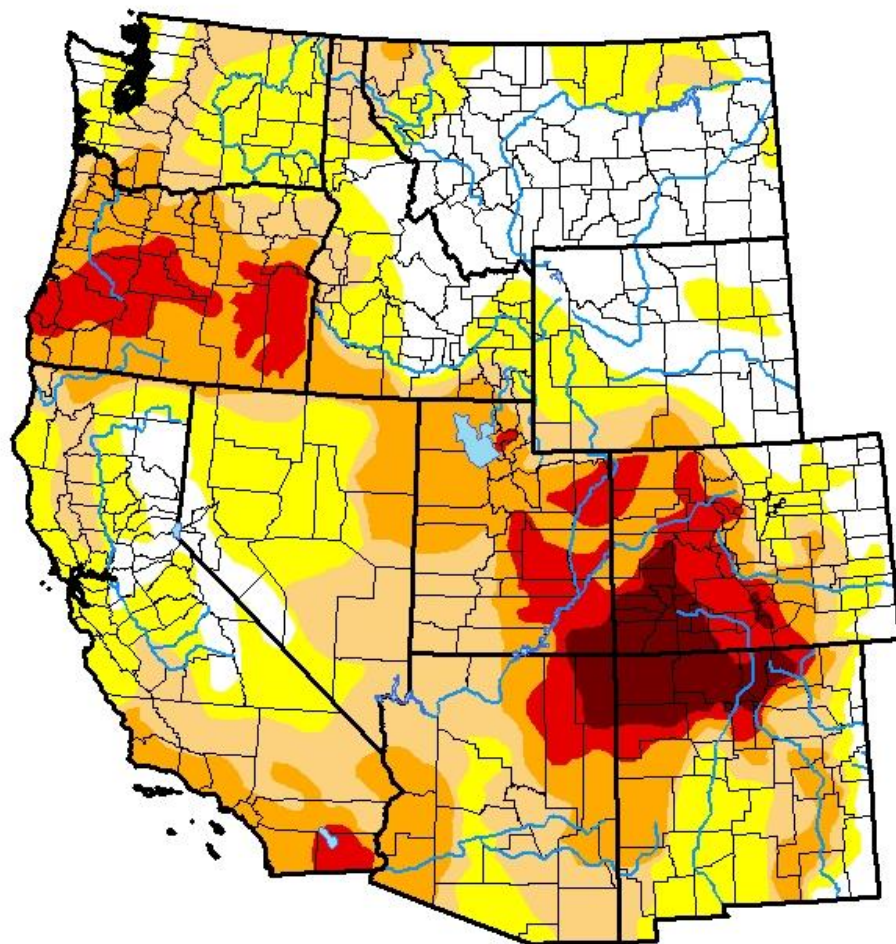
- Brock Reservoir: 137,434 AF through November 1st;
- Senator Wash: 65,145 AF through November 1st;
- Excess Flows to Mexico: 5,970 AF through November 5th; and
- Bypassed to Cienega: 86,020 AF through November 5th.

(Calendar Year data)



U.S. Drought Monitor West

October 30, 2018
(Released Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	21.83	78.17	52.75	31.31	11.80	3.42
Last Week 10-23-2018	21.10	78.90	56.01	32.48	12.04	3.42
3 Months Ago 07-31-2018	22.11	77.89	54.85	34.72	17.47	4.02
Start of Calendar Year 01-02-2018	48.76	51.24	29.03	8.60	1.52	0.00
Start of Water Year 09-25-2018	13.91	86.09	59.57	39.68	18.15	4.36
One Year Ago 10-31-2017	58.13	41.87	16.48	5.34	1.85	0.00

Intensity:

- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

Author:

Deborah Bathke
National Drought Mitigation Center



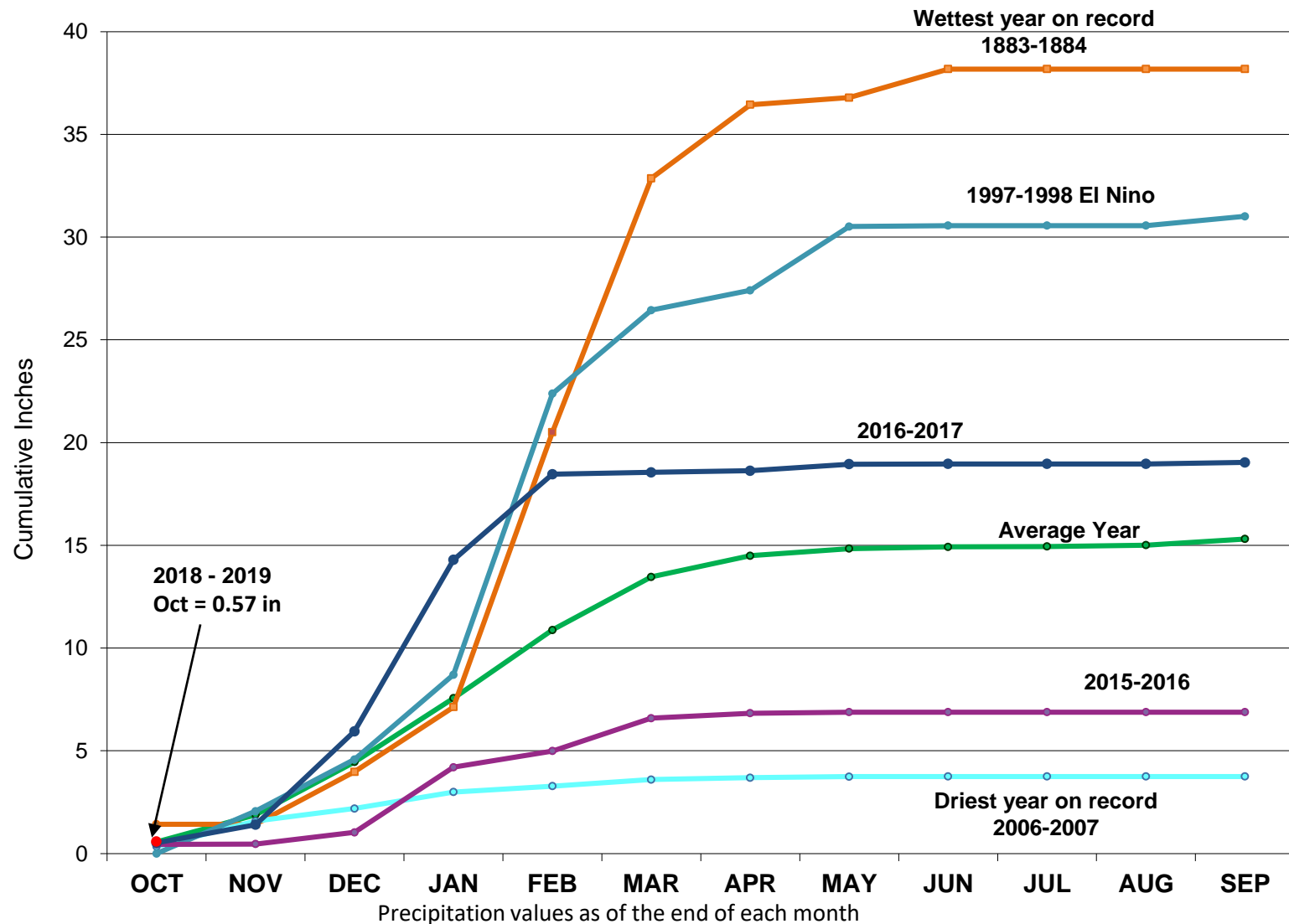
<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

State & Local Agency Water Reports



November 14, 2018

Los Angeles Civic Center Precipitation



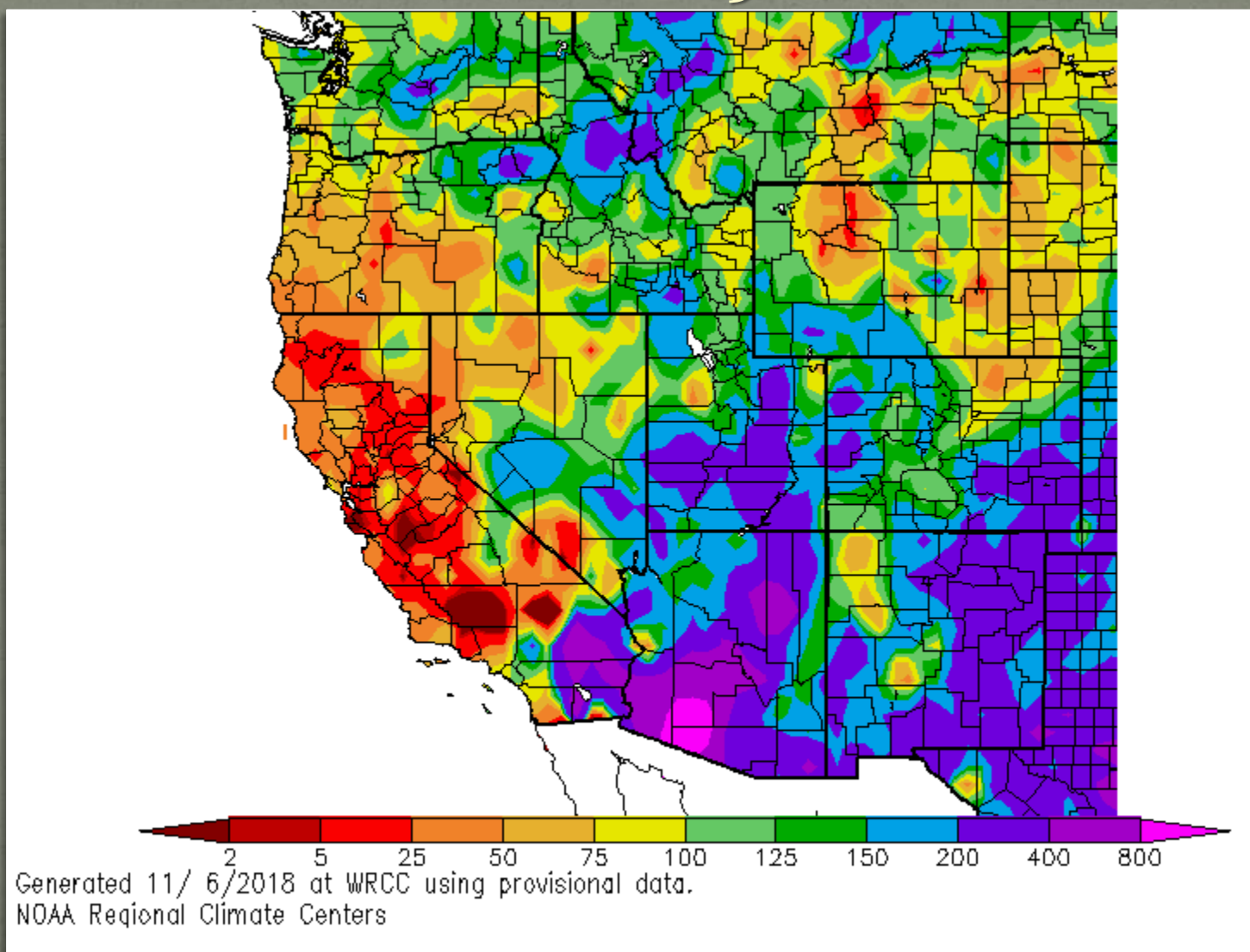
Precipitation at Six Major Stations in Southern California

From October 1, 2018 to October 31, 2018

Station	Precipitation in inches		Average to Date	Percent of Average
	Oct	Oct 1 to Oct 31		
San Luis Obispo	0.50	0.50	0.91	55%
Santa Barbara	0.42	0.42	0.69	61%
Los Angeles	0.57	0.57	0.56	102%
San Diego	0.57	0.57	0.51	112%
Blythe	0.85	0.85	0.27	315%
Imperial	0.02	0.02	0.25	8%

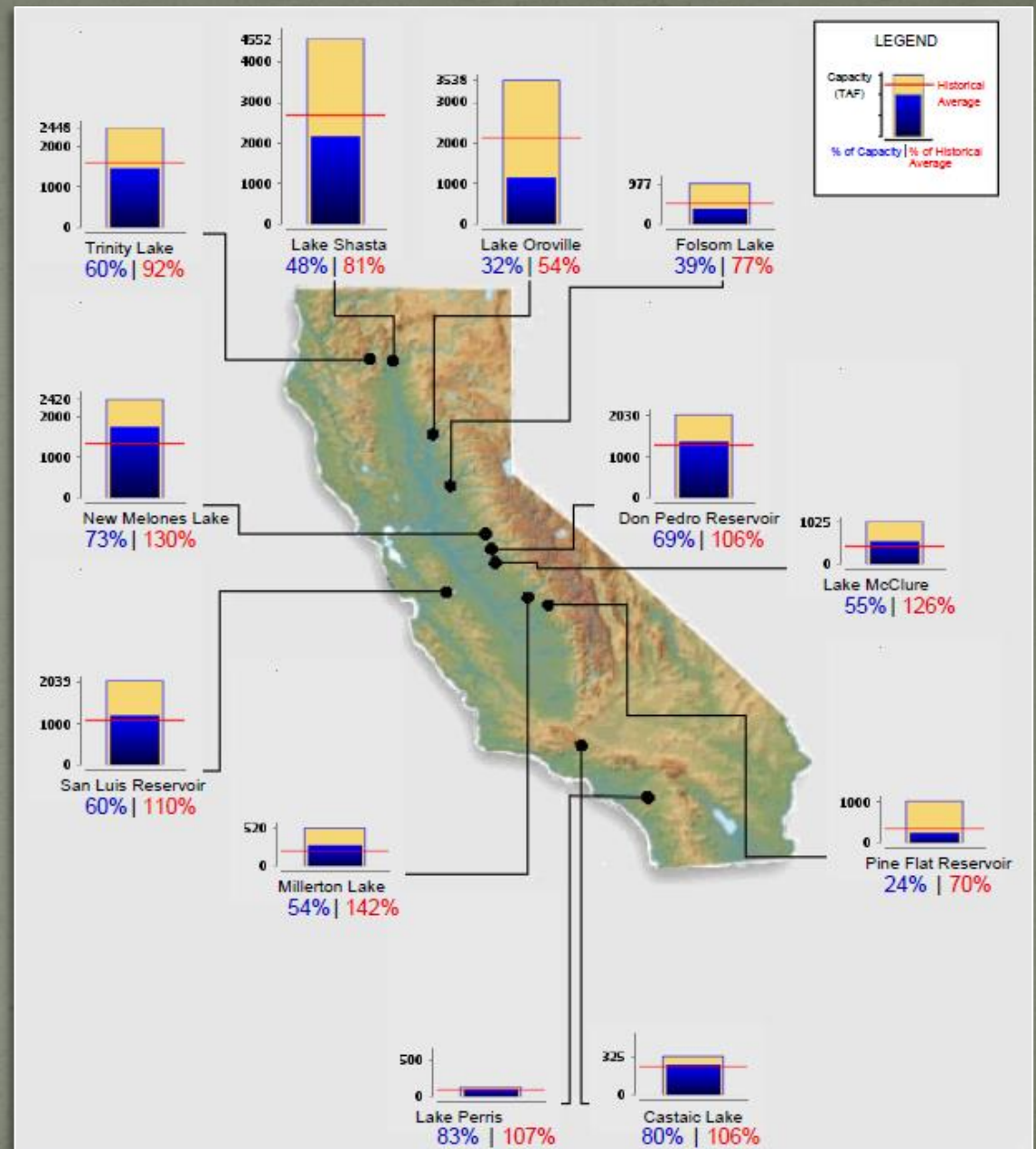
Percent of Average Precipitation (%)

10/1/2018 – 11/5/2018



Current Reservoir Conditions

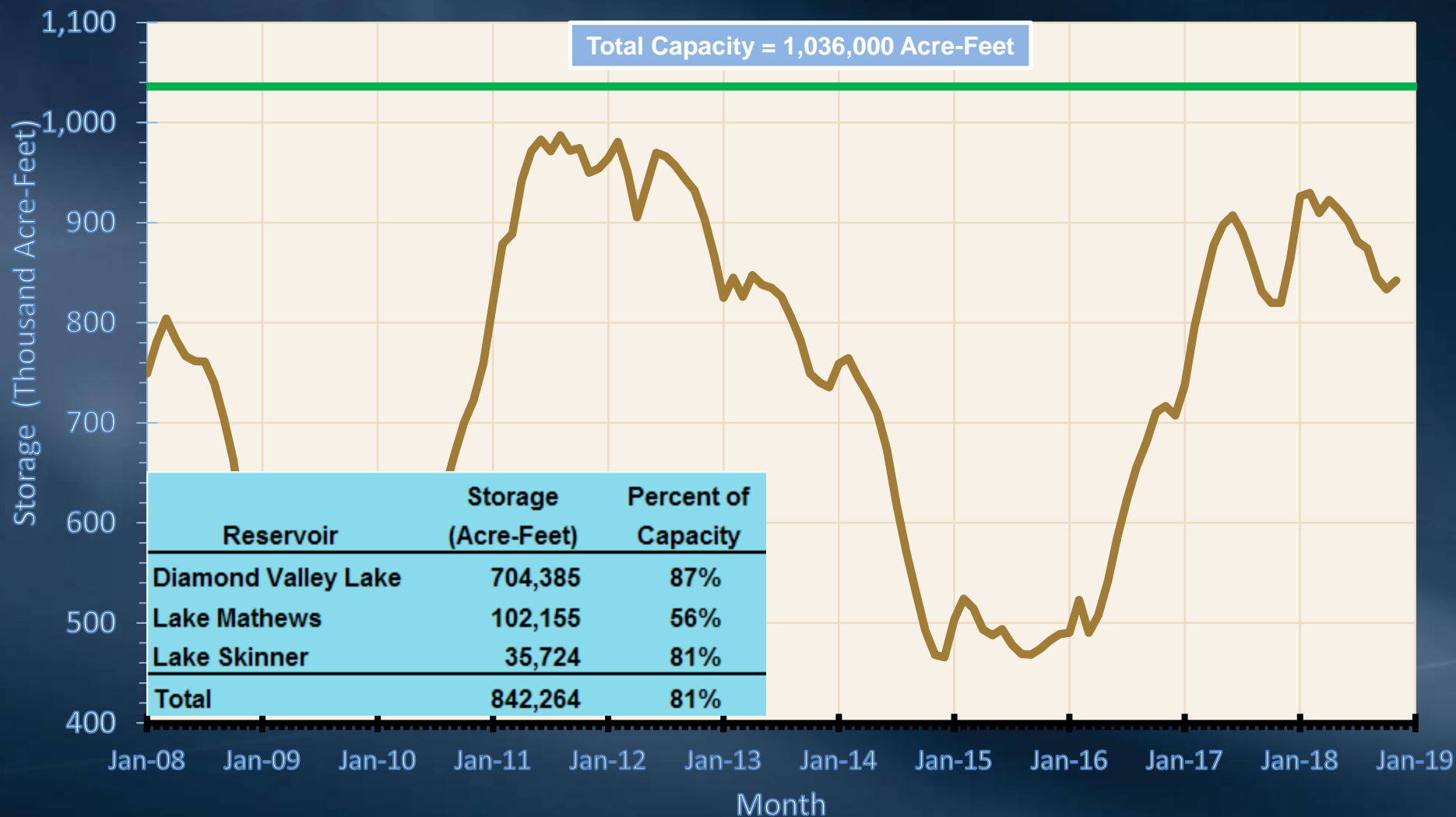
November 6, 2018





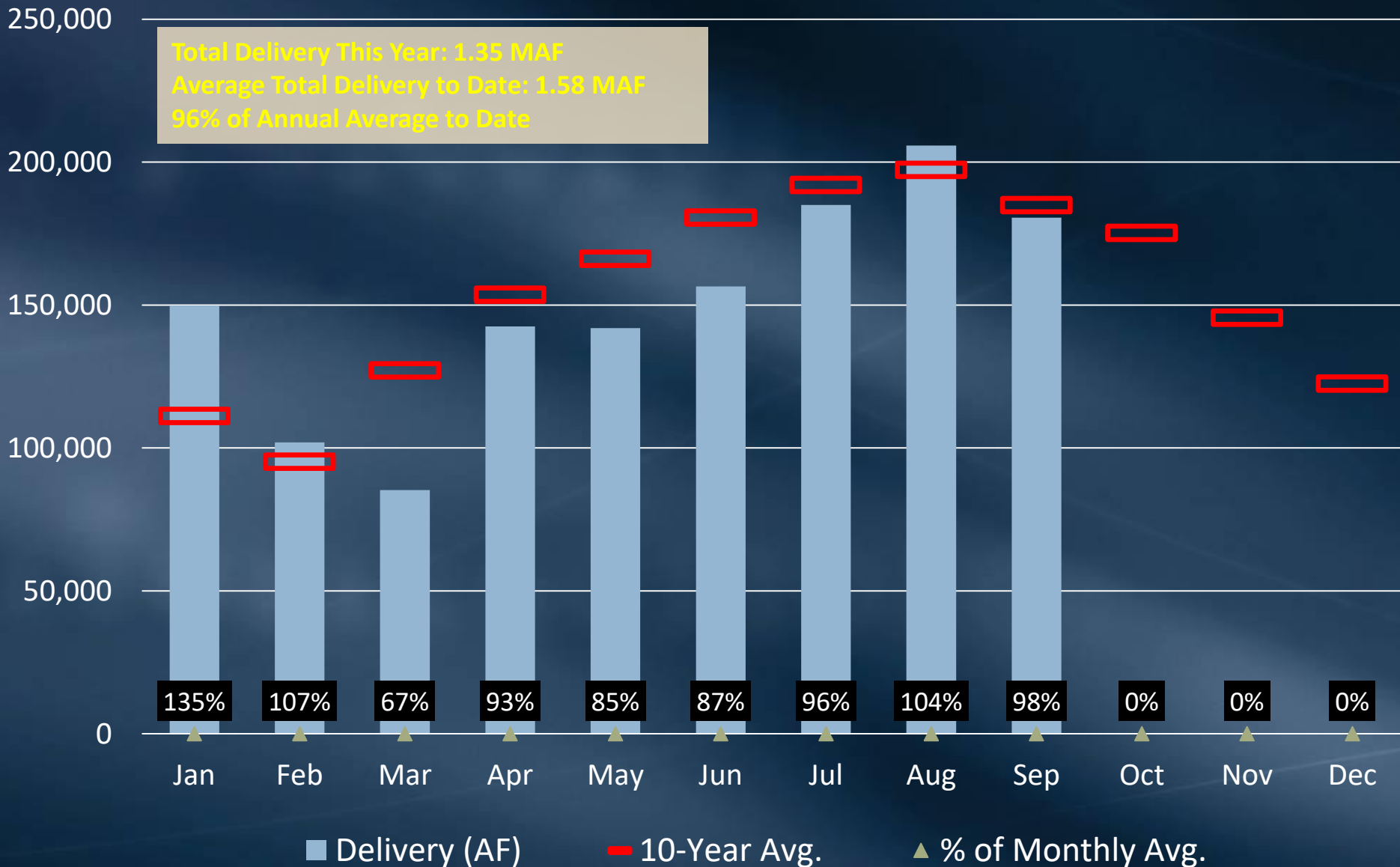
MWD's Combined Reservoir Storage as of November 1, 2018

Lake Skinner, Lake Mathews, and Diamond Valley Lake



2018 Water Deliveries to Agencies (AF)

Total Delivery This Year: 1.35 MAF
Average Total Delivery to Date: 1.58 MAF
96% of Annual Average to Date



Status of Programs & Activities



November 14, 2018

Drought Contingency Planning

- Draft final DCP agreements posted to Reclamation's webpage on October 9th;
- Stakeholder briefings and outreach efforts ongoing in Upper Basin States;
- Efforts are ongoing in AZ and CA to develop and finalize intrastate agreements and new ICS exhibits;
- Small drafting group is working on a proposed seven states cover letter to Congressional delegations and would include DCP agreements and proposed federal legislation as attachments;
- Anticipated to finalize the seven states letter for distribution in late-November; and
- Staff will circulate the final version of the letter among the agencies and request authorization for the Chairman to sign the letter as California's Colorado River Commissioner



Minute No. 323 Implementation

- M323 Binational Hydrology Work Group held its first meeting in Coronado, CA on October 16th
 - Received status report of reservoir contents, system operations and current hydrologic conditions; and
 - Reviewed roles responsibilities for the work group as described in M323
- Minute Oversight Group met on October 17th—
 - Received status updates from M323 work group co-chairs;
 - Discussed status of U.S. DCP efforts and process for activation of Section IV of M323 (Binational Water Scarcity Contingency Plan)

Minute No. 323 Implementation (cont.)

- Pursuant to Section IX.B of M323, the Binational Desalination Work Group has been evaluating the feasibility of binational desalination opportunities;
- M323 identifies potential areas of interest as—
 - Pacific Ocean coast;
 - New River;
 - Gulf of California (Sonora and Baja coasts); and
 - Wastewater treatment and reuse in Mexicali Valley and at the South Bay Intl. Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Work Group developed a proposed scope-of-work for the feasibility assessment for desalination opportunities along the Sonoran coast of the Gulf of California.



Minute No. 323 Implementation (cont.)

- Proposed Binational Desalination Opportunities Report is to include—
 - Current and future unmet water demands in Sonora and Baja California, Mexico, and in the Lower Basin in the U.S.
 - Desalination technologies that may be available/feasible;
 - Primary focus area is Sonoran coast between Puerto Libertad and Puerto Peñasco;
 - Identify opportunities that could provide up to 50 KAF/yr and a combined capacity of up to 200 KAF/yr;
 - Identify portfolio of desalination concepts and feasible opportunities and mechanisms for exchange with Lower Basin water users; and
 - Identify potential impacts to marine and terrestrial habitats and species.

Minute No. 323 Implementation (cont.)

- Proposed total cost of the study is up to \$600,000;
- Cost-shared equally among—
 - Central Arizona Water Conservation District;
 - Arizona Department of Water Resources;
 - Freeport-McMoRan Inc.;
 - Salt River Project Agricultural Improvement District;
 - Southern Nevada Water Authority; and
 - Six Agency Committee.
- Final Desalination Opportunities Study Report is expected to be completed by May 2020.

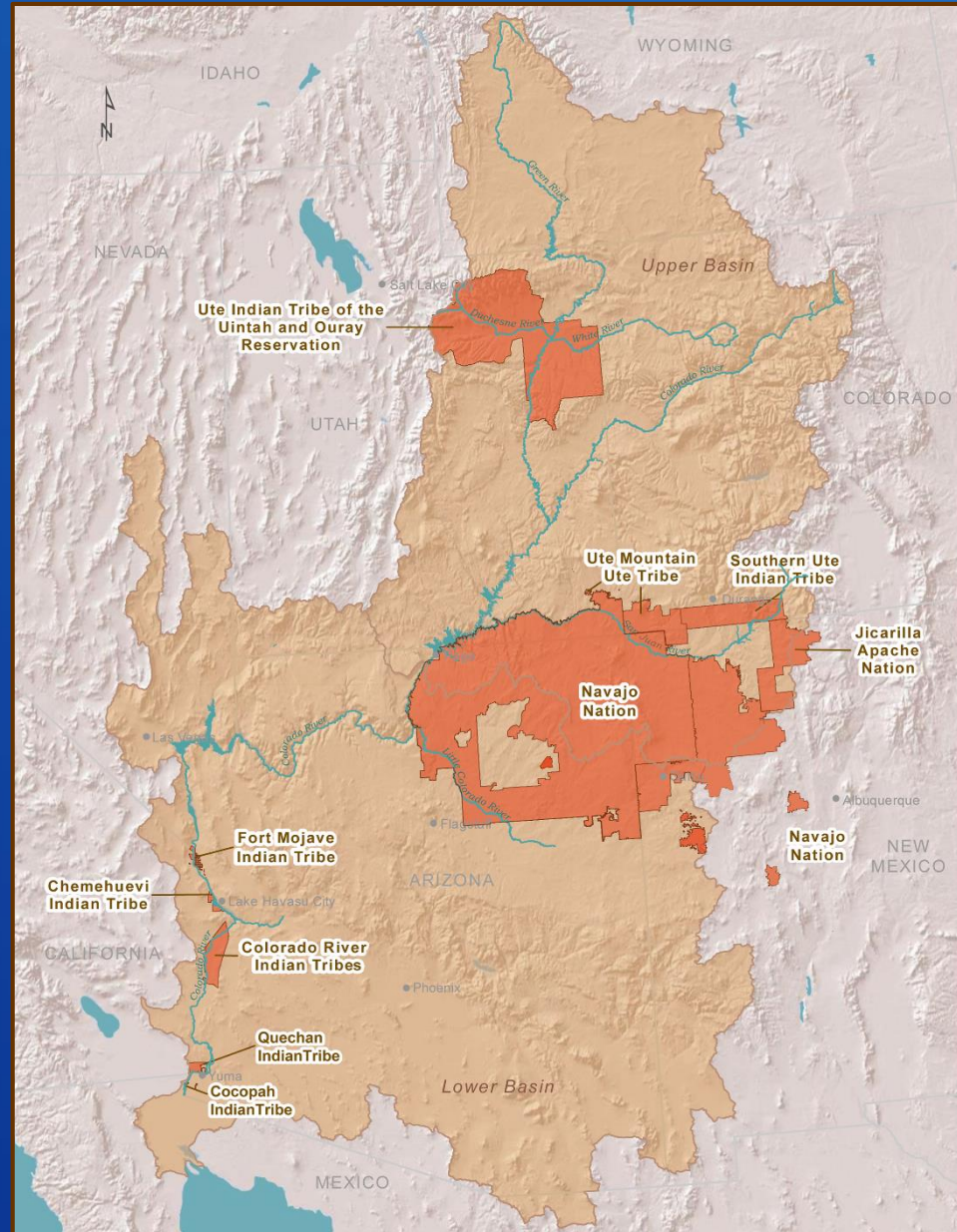
Minute No. 323 Implementation

- Environmental Work Group met October 23rd in San Ysidro—
 - Working on programmatic framework and 2018/2019 plans for water delivery, restoration, and monitoring
 - Focused on resolving logistics for the delivery of water and funding from various sources
 - Followed by Minute 319 “Lessons Learned” meeting in Tijuana on October 24-25



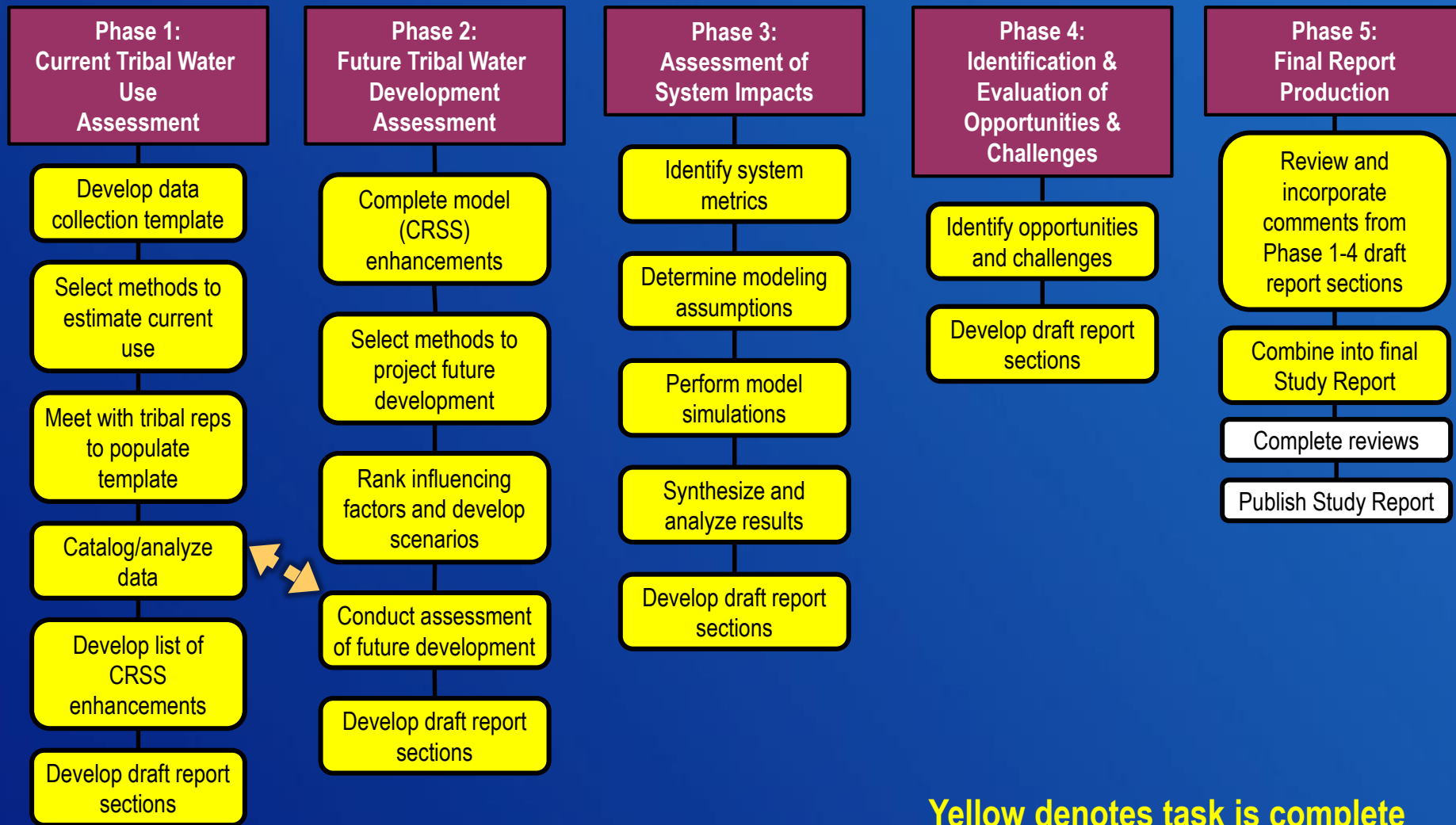
Tribal Water Study

- Builds on limited assessment of tribal water issues in Colorado River Basin Study
- Conducted jointly by Reclamation and the Ten Tribes Partnership
- Objectives
 - Assess current and future water development for tribes of the Ten Tribes Partnership
 - Assess system impacts resulting from development of tribal water, including to those relying on unused tribal water
 - Identify tribal water development challenges and opportunities
- Study began in January 2014



RECLAMATION

Study Phases and Tasks – Status



Review and Completion Process

- Internal reviews completed by UC/LC Reclamation staff and DOI attorneys
- **November 21** – State fatal flaw comments due
- Submit comments to Pam Adams, padams@usbr.gov and KayLee Nelson, kdnelson@usbr.gov
- Publish report around CRWUA, December 12-14

Salinity Control Program

- Forum & Advisory Council met in Santa Fe, NM on October 29-30;
- Received reports about recent changes in federal personnel and high-level vacancies remaining in several agencies;
- Program funding over the next four years (FY-2019 through FY-2022) is averaging \$25 million/year;
- Funding is consistent with achieving an additional 63.5 Ktons of salinity control as identified in the 2017 Triennial Review;
- Program is on track to achieve objective of 1.68 million tons of salinity control annually by 2035;



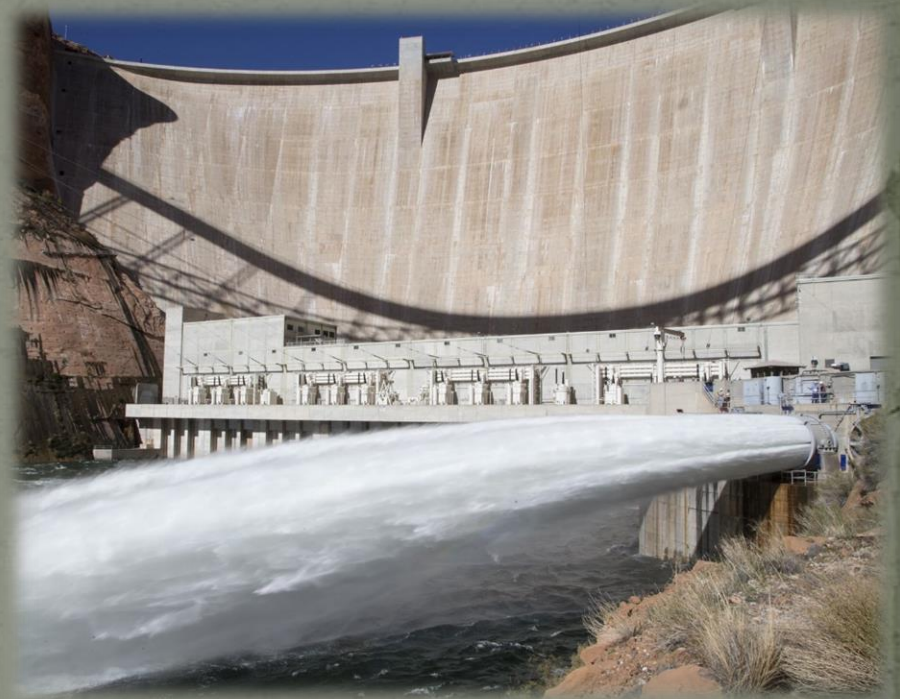
Salinity Control Program (cont.)

- USGS continues to prepare an updated salinity trends analysis for the watersheds in the Upper Basin, and is also evaluating water quality data in the context of landscape scale activities (grazing, mining, oil/gas exploration, fire management and climate change, etc.)
- Paradox Valley Unit EIS Schedule—
 - Draft EIS in July/August 2019
 - Final EIS in late-2019 – early-2020
 - Record of Decision in May 2020
- Work Group drafting a narrative for a Pah Tempe Springs project for discussion at the February Work Group meeting
- Forum and Advisory Council to meet in spring 2019 in Denver, CO for 100th meeting of the Forum



Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Program

- Technical Work Group met via webinar on October 10th
- With input from technical committee, DOI approved High Flow Experiment (HFE)—
 - HFE was conducted November 5-8;
 - Meant to move sediment to beaches;
 - Not expected to affect water deliveries or lake levels; and
 - Technical Work Group met via webinar on October 10th
- Group will next meet for Annual Reporting meeting in February 2019



Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program

- Steering Committee met in Las Vegas on October 24th
 - Approved conservation easement for 630 ac of MWD property in Palo Verde Valley, at a cost of \$9.73 M;
 - This will become the new “Dennis Underwood Conservation Area;”
 - Discussed proposed down-listing of the razorback sucker from endangered to threatened



Announcements



Announcements & Updates

- Washington, D.C. Updates—
 - Six Agency Committee Washington, D.C. representative, Ms. Sara Tucker, prepared a report describing the results and impacts of the mid-term elections on the potential makeup of the next Congress
- *Navajo Nation v. U.S. Department of the Interior*
 - Counsel for CVWD, Mr. Steve Abbott, prepared a status report regarding the on-going litigation between the Navajo Nation and DOI. On November 14th a hearing is being held in the U.S. District Court in Arizona regarding the Nation's motion to file a third amended complaint in the case.

NEXT MEETING

December 13, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Augustus III

Caesar's Palace

Las Vegas, Nevada



Colorado River Board
of California